

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1825
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2007
ARRIVAL OF MIGRATORY BIRDS
Mondal Shri Abu Ayes

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the places in India where migrant birds generally visit;
- (b) whether there is a decline in their arrival; and
- (c) if so, the steps proposed/taken to promote/facilitate their arrival?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

- (a) Important wetlands in India are the main wintering habitats of migratory birds arriving in India. Bharatpur in Rajasthan, Chilka in Orissa, Etawah & Mainpuri in Uttar Pradesh, Sultanpur in Haryana and Nalsarovar & Kutch in Gujarat are a few important wetland areas visited by migratory birds.
- (b) There are few reports of decline in the number of migratory birds arriving in India at some places.
- (c) The steps taken to facilitate their arrival include:
 - (i) Important wetlands/wintering habitats of migratory birds, like Keoladeo, Chilka, etc, have been declared as Protected Areas.
 - (ii) Important migratory species of birds have been included in the Schedules of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 thereby giving them legal protection.
 - (iii) India is a signatory to the United Nation Convention on Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS) and is bound to protect the migratory species and its habitat under the conventions.
 - (iv) India has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with CMS for protection of Siberian Cranes and its habitat.
 - (v) Financial and technical assistance are provided to the State Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes for development of habitat of Migratory birds.